

**THE OFFICE OF REGULATORY STAFF
SETTLEMENT TESTIMONY
OF
M. ELIZABETH FORD**

June 17, 2008



DOCKET NO. 2008-94-S

**APPLICATION OF CLS UTILITIES, LLC FOR
APPROVAL OF THE AGREEMENT, BOND,
OPERATION, MONTHLY RATE AND
SERVICE AREA FOR THE SEWAGE PUMP
STATION IN THE HARVEST GLEN
SUBDIVISION IN GREENVILLE COUNTY,
SOUTH CAROLINA**

SETTLEMENT TESTIMONY OF M. ELIZABETH FORD

FOR

THE OFFICE OF REGULATORY STAFF

DOCKET NO. 2008-94-S

**IN RE: APPLICATION OF CLS UTILITIES, LLC FOR APPROVAL OF THE
AGREEMENT, BOND, OPERATION, MONTHLY RATE AND SERVICE
AREA FOR THE SEWAGE PUMP STATION IN THE HARVEST GLEN
SUBDIVISION IN GREENVILLE COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA.**

**Q. PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME, BUSINESS ADDRESS AND
OCCUPATION.**

A. My name is Elizabeth Ford, and my business address is 1441 Main Street, Suite 300, Columbia, South Carolina 29201. I am employed by the state of South Carolina, Office of Regulatory Staff ("ORS") as a Program Specialist for the Water and Wastewater Department.

**Q. WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF YOUR TESTIMONY IN THIS
PROCEEDING?**

A. The purpose of my testimony is to provide a brief overview of the Settlement Agreement reached between ORS and CLS Utilities, LLC. ("CLS") in this proceeding and to explain why this Settlement Agreement is in the public interest. Specifically, I will focus on ORS's review of CLS's Wastewater Rate Study and compliance with the Commission's rules and regulations.

1 **Q. PLEASE PROVIDE AN OVERVIEW OF THE SETTLEMENT**
2 **AGREEMENT REACHED BY THE PARTIES OF RECORD.**

3 A. Following extensive discussions, the parties have each determined that their
4 interests, as well as the interest of the public would be best served by settling all
5 pending issues in this proceeding.

6 It is the position of ORS that the Settlement Agreement, as presented to this
7 Commission, is a fair, reasonable and full resolution to all issues in this
8 proceeding. Further, the Settlement Agreement represents the public interest as it
9 preserves the balance referred to in S.C. Code § 58-4-10:

10 ... ‘public interest’ means a balancing of the following:

- 11
12 (1) Concerns of the using and consuming public with
13 respect to public utility services, regardless of the
14 class of customer;
15
16 (2) Economic development and job attraction and
17 retention in South Carolina; and
18
19 (3) Preservation of the financial integrity of the State’s public utilities
20 and continued investment in and maintenance of utility facilities so
21 as to provide reliable and high quality utility services.
22

23 All parties agree the monthly rate established is necessary for CLS to provide its
24 customer with safe and adequate wastewater services. The Settlement Agreement
25 provides a proposed rate, terms and conditions that are fair and reasonable to both
26 the customer and CLS and will allow CLS the opportunity to earn a fair operating
27 margin.

28 As stated earlier, it is the position of ORS and CLS that this Settlement
29 Agreement is fair and reasonable and represents full resolution of all issues in this

1 proceeding and I would request the Commission approve the Settlement
2 Agreement as presented today.

3 **Q. DOES THAT CONCLUDE YOUR TESTIMONY?**

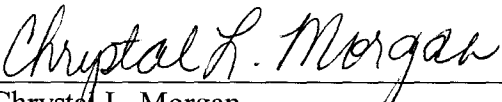
4 **A.** Yes it does.

BEFORE
THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF
SOUTH CAROLINA
DOCKET NO. 2008-94-S

IN RE:)	
Application of CLS Utilities, LLC for Approval of the)	CERTIFICATE OF
Agreement, Bond, Operation, Monthly Rate and)	SERVICE
Service Area for the Sewage Pump Station in The)	
Harvest Glen Subdivision in Greenville County,)	
South Carolina)	

This is to certify that I, Chrystal L. Morgan, an employee with the Office of Regulatory Staff, have this date served one (1) copy of the **SETTLEMENT TESTIMONY OF M. ELIZABETH FORD** in the above-referenced matter to the person(s) named below by causing said copy to be deposited in the United States Postal Service, first class postage prepaid and affixed thereto, and addressed as shown below:

Richard L. Whitt, Esquire
Austin & Rogers, P.A.
Post Office Box 11716
Columbia, SC, 29201



Chrystal L. Morgan

June 17, 2008
Columbia, South Carolina